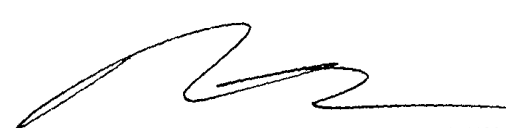
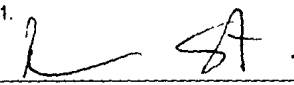
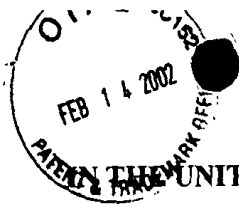
		TRANSMITTAL LETTER (General - Patent Pending)		Docket No 0112701-029	
In Re Application Of: May et al.					
Serial No. 09/230,623		Filing Date June 14, 1999		Examiner S. Weinstein	
				Group Art Unit 1761	
Title: MULTI-LAYERED CANNED PET FOOD					
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</u></p> <p>Transmitted herewith is:</p> <p>Transmittal Letter (General - Patent Pending); Response to Final Office Action (12 pages) and Postcard Return Receipt.</p> <p>in the above identified application.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ is attached.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 02-1818 as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Charge the amount of _____</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee required.</p> <div style="text-align: right;"> Dated: January 31, 2002</div> <p style="text-align: center;">Signature</p> <p>Robert M. Barrett (Reg. No. 30,142) BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC P. O. Box 1135 Chicago, Illinois 60690</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"><p>I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on 01/31/02 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.</p><p style="text-align: center;"></p><p style="text-align: center;">Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</p><p style="text-align: center;">Renee Street</p><p style="text-align: center;">Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</p></div> <p>CC:</p>					



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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Please enter the following Response in the above-identified patent application:

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Alternatively, the substantially solid foodstuff may be cooked rice or noodles, or both. In this case, the settable foodstuff may be freshly cooked rice or noodles. Upon cooling, the freshly cooked rice or noodles form a substantially solid layer. If desired, suitable gelling or thickening agents, for example gums such as kappa-carrageenan, locust bean gum, guar gum and xanthan gum may be added to the rice or noodles. Usually no more than about 2% by weight of gelling or thickening agent is needed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Alternatively, the substantially sold foodstuff may be an aspic; for example an aspic which contains cooked vegetable pieces. The aspic may be prepared as is conventional. Additional ingredients such as sugars, salts, spices, seasoning, flavoring agents, minerals, and the like may also be added to aspic. The amount of additional ingredients used is preferably such that they make up about 0.25% to about 5% by weight of the aspic.